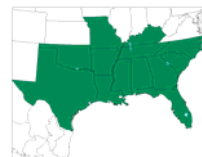


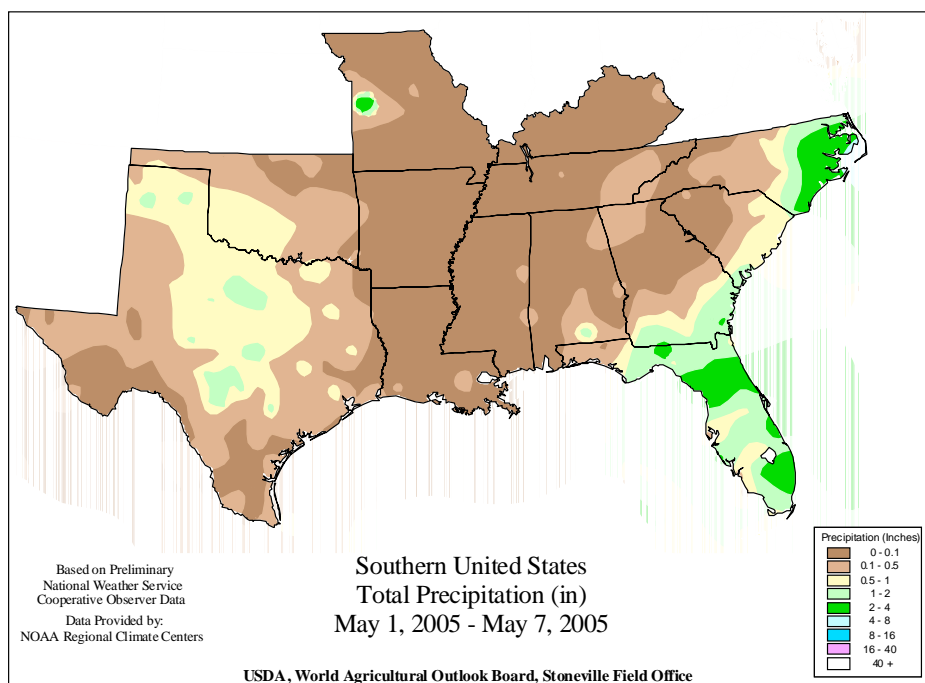


**Office of the Chief Economist  
World Agricultural Outlook Board  
Stoneville Field Office**



## WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER REPORT

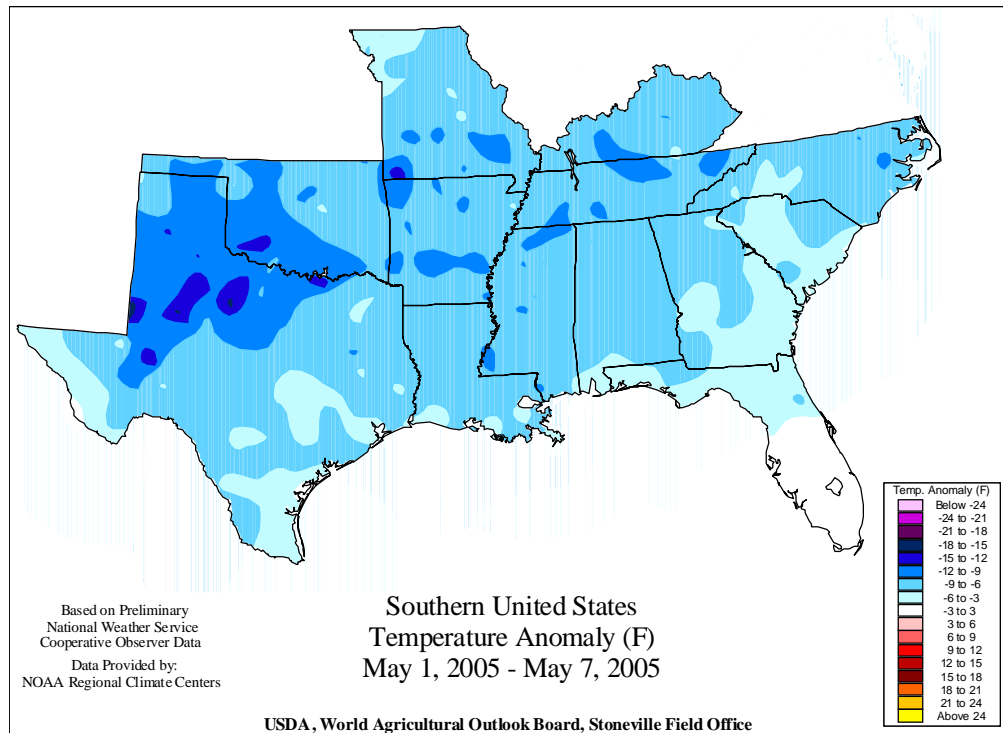
**May 1 to 7, 2005**



### Weather Highlights

High pressure prevailed over the central US during most of the week, bringing much cooler, drier weather to a majority of the southern region. The exceptions were areas on the outer fringes of the high pressure area, including Texas and Florida, which experienced numerous showers and thunderstorms. Florida took a pounding for three days straight from Tuesday through Thursday (May 3 to 5), resulting in very heavy rainfall and large hail. As this developing storm system traveled up the East Coast, coastal areas of the Carolinas received heavy rain on Thursday and Friday (May 5 and 6), especially eastern North Carolina. Almost a dozen daily rainfall records were set from Florida to North Carolina, including the cities of Melbourne, Vero Beach and Gainesville, FL, Brunswick, GA, Charleston, SC, and Cape Hatteras, and Wilmington, NC. The new records included daily rain amounts between 1 to 2-1/2 inches, but weekly totals reached 4 inches along the eastern North Carolina Coast and parts of Florida.

Similar locations in the Southeast also set new records for the lowest daytime maximum temperatures. In fact, all states except central and southern Florida reported below-average temperatures. The majority of the locations in the southern US reported weekly temperatures that averaged 6 to 9 degrees F below normal, with departures as much as 12 to 15 degrees F below normal in isolated locations in Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri.



The Mississippi Delta experienced unusually cool, dry weather during the entire week. Persistent northerly winds ushered in low humidities that dried out fields quickly. Temperatures struggled to approach normal, raising concerns for cotton growers regarding a lack of sufficient heat units. Stoneville reported maximum temperatures as much as 15 degrees F below normal, and 11 degrees F below normal at night. Maximum temperatures struggled to reach the low 70's F. Nighttime lows fell to the lower 40's F, Vance reporting the lowest temperature of 40 degrees F. By the weekend, the Delta regained a southerly flow which brought temperatures back to seasonal norms.

**(For Additional Information, contact Nancy Lopez at 662-686-3395)**

## Agricultural Summary

### United States Crop Progress Report\*

		Week Ending			
		May 8, 2005	May 1, 2005	May 8, 2004	2000-2004 Average
		Percent			
Cotton	Planted	39	27	42	43
Corn	Planted	79	52	81	67
	Emerged	23	13	34	26
Rice	Planted	79	65	80	78
	Emerged	50	36	63	56
Soybeans	Planted	26	8	32	23

\*Source: USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

#### **Cotton:**

Cotton planting progressed to 39 percent complete, 3 points behind last year and 4 points behind normal. Missouri led with 75 percent of their crop planted, advancing 33 points. Mississippi (65 percent planted), Arkansas (54 percent planted), Louisiana (74 percent planted), N. Carolina (40 percent planted) and S. Carolina (34 percent planted) advanced over 20 points. Planting delays were greatest in Georgia (19 percent planted), and Oklahoma (3 percent planted). Texas reported that 2 percent of their crop was squaring.

#### **Corn:**

Growers had planted 79 percent of the Nation's crop, 2 points behind last year and 12 points ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence progressed 10 points to 23 percent emerged. Louisiana reported 100 percent while Texas reported 68 percent of their crops had emerged. Emergence in many southern states progressed to near completion. Only Tennessee (64 percent emerged) was more than 10 points behind their 5-year average of 77 percent emerged, while emergence advanced to 93 percent in Mississippi, 91 percent in S. Carolina, 87 percent in Georgia, and 83 percent in Arkansas.

#### **Rice:**

Planting progressed to 79 percent complete, compared with 80 percent last year and 78 percent for the 5-year average. Emergence, at 50 percent complete, was 13 points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. Planting in Missouri advanced 31 points reaching 88 percent complete. Emergence was most rapid in Mississippi, where 23 percent of the crop emerged during the week. Rice emergence was behind both last year and the 5-year average in all southern states except Mississippi, (14 points ahead of the 5-year average with 71 percent emerged), and Texas (90 percent emerged and equal to the 5-year average).

#### **Soybeans:**

Planting progressed 18 points to 26 percent complete, 6 points behind last year and 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. Mississippi (79 percent planted) and Texas (61 percent planted) led, followed by Louisiana (47 percent planted) and Arkansas (40 percent planted). Crop emergence was ahead or near the 5-year average in the southern states except for Georgia, which trailed both last year and its 5-year average.

**(For Additional Information, contact Bart Freeland at 662-686-3280)**